

Thomas L. Toth

S/N: 10/063,373

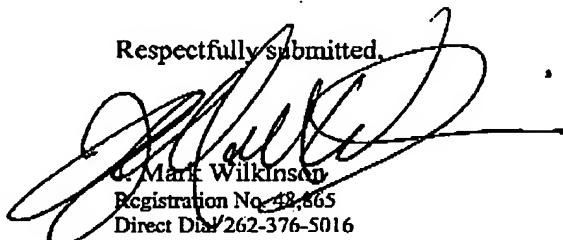
REMARKS

Claims 1-38 are pending in the present application. In the Office Action mailed October 14, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 11-12, 18-20, 25, and 38 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Liu (USP6,597,938). The Examiner next rejected claims 30, and 35-37 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Kelender (Eur. Radiol. 9, Springer-Verlag 199, pages 555-562.) Claims 11 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §130(a) as being unpatentable over Liu, as applied to claims 1 and 12 above in view of Kelender. Claims 31-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kelender as applied to claim 30 above in view of Liu.

Enclosed herewith please find a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.131 disqualifying Liu as prior art against the claimed invention. Applicant has also canceled claims 30-37 which were rejected based on Kelender. As no other issues remain outstanding, in light of at least the foregoing, Applicant respectfully believes that the present application is in condition for allowance. As a result, Applicant respectfully requests timely issuance of a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-29 and 38.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's consideration of these Amendments and Remarks and cordially invites the Examiner to call the undersigned, should the Examiner consider any matters unresolved.

Respectfully submitted,



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